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**AB-1344 Voting rights: inmates and persons formerly incarcerated.** (2017-2018)

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**Assembly Bill No. 1344**

**CHAPTER 796**

An act to amend Section 2105.5 of, and to add Section 2105.6 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.

[ Approved by Governor October 14, 2017. Filed with Secretary of State October 14, 2017. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 1344, Weber. Voting rights: inmates and persons formerly incarcerated.

Existing law provides that a person is entitled to register to vote if he or she is a United States citizen, a resident of California, not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election.

Existing law requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and county probation departments to either establish and maintain on its Internet Web site a hyperlink to the Internet Web site at which the Secretary of State's voting rights guide for incarcerated persons may be found or post a notice that contains that Internet Web site address.

This bill would instead require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and county probation departments to both establish and maintain on its Internet Web site a hyperlink to the Internet Web site at which information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history may be found and to post a notice that contains that Internet Web site address. The bill would also require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and county probation departments to provide certain voting rights information to persons under their jurisdiction upon the request of such a person. By imposing new duties on county probation departments, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 2105.5 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

**2105.5.** (a) The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall do both of the following:

- (1) Establish and maintain on the department's Internet Web site a hyperlink to the Internet Web site at which information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history may be found.

(2) Post, in each parole office where parolees are seen, a notice that contains the Internet Web site address at which information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history may be found.

(b) Each county probation department shall do both of the following:

(1) Establish and maintain on the county probation department's Internet Web site a hyperlink to the Internet Web site at which information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history may be found.

(2) Post, in each probation office where probationers are seen, a notice that contains the Internet Web site address at which information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history may be found.

**SEC. 2.** Section 2105.6 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

**2105.6.** (a) The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall provide each parolee under the jurisdiction of the department upon the completion of his or her parole, upon the parolee's request, information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history.

(b) Each county probation department is encouraged to notify persons that a printed version of information regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history who are under the department's supervision is available upon request.

(c) Each county probation department shall provide each person under the department's supervision, upon the person's request, information provided by the Secretary of State regarding voting rights for persons with a criminal history.

**SEC. 3.** If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.